

**CITY OF SAGINAW
MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP
HELD AT THE SAGINAW CITY HALL
333 WEST MCCLEROY BOULEVARD
AUGUST 10, 2019**

Present at the meeting:

Mayor	Todd Flipppo
Mayor Pro Tem	Valerie Tankersley
Councilmember	Charles Beasley
Councilmember	Patrick Farr
Councilmember	Charles Tucker
Councilmember	Cindy Bighorse
Councilmember	Mary Copeland
City Manager	Gabe Reaume
Asst. City Manager	Dolph Johnson
Finance Director	Kim Quin
City Secretary	Janice England
Police Chief	Lee Howell
Fire Chief	Doug Spears
Director of Public Works	Rick Trice
Director of Community Svcs.	Keith Rinehart
Director of Human Resources	Melanie McManus
Director of Economic Dev.	Alora Wachholz
Library Director	Ellen Ritchie

Absent from the meeting:

None

Visitors at the meeting:

None

(1) Call to Order

Mayor Flipppo called the meeting to order at 8:19 a.m.

(2) Recess into Workshop

Mayor Flipppo declared the meeting recessed into workshop at 8:19 a.m.

Mayor Flipppo welcomed everyone. He expressed his appreciation to everyone for attending today's meeting. He thanked the staff for their efforts in the preparation of the budget. He encouraged the Councilmembers to speak up and ask questions. He reminded everyone that we are all here to work together for the betterment of the city.

(3) Recap of Proposed FY19/20 Budget

City Manager Reaume stated that the series of workshops for the FY19/20 Budget began in March. Finance Director Quin gave a brief recap of the following: Donations Fund, General Escrow Fund, Drainage Utility Fund, Crime Control and Prevention District Fund, Street Maintenance Fund, Enterprise (Water/Wastewater) Fund, Capital Projects Fund, Debt Service Fund, and General Fund.

City Manager Reaume explained that the proposed budget is based on a tax rate of .459 which is 1.28 cents lower than last year's rate of .4718. He stated that the rollback tax rate is .469175. There was a discussion regarding the proposed tax rate and the rollback tax rate. The majority of the Council was in favor of the rollback tax rate. Councilmember Farr stated that he was in favor of a tax rate of .430. City Manager Reaume explained that the rollback tax rate would allow revenue to fund three new positions (an Emergency Management Coordinator; a Police Officer, and a Firefighter). A lengthy discussion followed. Councilmember Farr explained his proposal to fund the additional positions using his proposed tax rate. There was discussion regarding how conservative decisions regarding the budget should be.

Councilmember Copeland explained that she was going to have to leave the meeting due to another commitment but if donations are discussed, she wanted the Council to know she is in favor of adding donations to three organizations to the proposed budget. They are Community Link Mission (\$1,000), Meals on Wheels of Tarrant County (\$1,000), and the Eagle Mountain-Saginaw Independent School District Education Foundation (\$2,000)

(Councilmember Copeland left the meeting at this point.)

There was discussion regarding possible ways to cut expenditures in the proposed budget including increasing fees in the master fee schedule.

Mayor Flipppo declared the workshop recessed at 9:45 a.m.

Mayor Flipppo declared the workshop back in session at 9:53 a.m.

There was additional discussion regarding how conservative the budget should be. There was discussion regarding donations included in the budget and whether to add those suggested by Councilmember Copeland. The consensus of the Council was not to change or add to the organizations included in the budget.

(Councilmember Farr left the meeting at this point.)

There was discussion regarding Economic Development and the Building Improvement Grant Program.

The consensus of the Council was to proceed with publishing the rollback tax rate as required by state law. This will allow the Council to adopt the rollback rate or a lower rate. The Council also encouraged staff to review all fees to determine if increases are needed. Mayor Flipppo expressed his appreciation to everyone for their participation.

(4) Reconvene Back into Regular Session

Mayor Flipppo declared the meeting back in Regular Session at 11:22 a.m.

(5) Adjournment

Mayor Flippo declared the City Council Meeting of August 10, 2019 adjourned at 11:22 a.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

City Secretary Janice England

Mayor Todd Flippo